COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Monday, the *26th November 1934.*
11th Vrischigam 1110.

The House met at 11-30 A. M. in the Town Hall, Ernakulam, with M. R.Ry., A. Sankara Menon Avl., in the chair. Messrs. C. Barton Wright, K. G. Nayar, S. S. Koder, M Krishna Menon and K. T. Mathew were absent.

Swearing in of new Members.

Messrs. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait (Member for Mussalmans) and A. Sivarama Menon (Member for Chittur-Tattamangalam) took and subscribed the oath of allegiance.

Opening Statement by the President.

President: —Hon'ble Members, I wish you all a hearty welcome to this the first session of the present Council. I am sorry that the Diwan-President is not here today. The fact is that he could not be present in two places at the same time. This meeting was first fixed to commence here today and our Diwan was forced to leave the State a few days ago for New Delhi where the Harbour Conference also meets today.

After our last meeting, we have suffered a very heavy loss in the passing-away of Dr. A. G. Menon, our esteemed Deputy President. I will not anticipate the speakers on the condolence motion which will be moved as soon as we have finished the questions and answers. But I feel I must say one word and that is only this: – In our choice of Dr. A. G. Menon as our first elected Deputy President we did commit no mistake as we all only too well know how well he filled the place to which our vote called him.

As regards this item in the agenda — Statement by the President — I think that is mainly intended for the Diwan-President to explain to us, if he chooses, any policy adopted or action taken by the Government. I am not evidently in a position to fulfill that object, but I will use this occasion to inform the Government how thankful the people are for the proposed loan of Rs. 20 lakhs to relieve agricultural indebtedness in the country and all of us trust that the scheme would meet with great success.

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